

Amendments to Claims

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A method for the expression of a coding region of interest in a *Bacillus sp* comprising:

- a) providing a transformed *Bacillus sp* cell having a chimeric gene comprising ~~a nucleic acid fragment comprising the promoter region of a *Bacillus* gene~~ operably linked to a coding region of interest expressible in a *Bacillus sp*, wherein the ~~nucleic acid fragment comprising the promoter region~~ is of a *Bacillus* gene is *yvaWXY* gene and homologues thereof; and
- b) growing the transformed *Bacillus sp* cell of step (a) in the absence of oxygen wherein the chimeric gene of step (a) is expressed.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended). A method for the expression of a coding region of interest in a *Bacillus sp* comprising:

- a) providing a transformed *Bacillus sp* cell having a chimeric gene comprising ~~a nucleic acid fragment comprising the promoter region of a *Bacillus* gene~~ operably linked to a coding region of interest expressible in a *Bacillus sp*, wherein the ~~nucleic acid fragment comprising the promoter region~~ is of a *Bacillus* gene is *yvaWXY* gene and homologues thereof;
- b) growing the transformed *Bacillus sp.* cell of step (a) in the presence of oxygen whereby the cell density is increased; and
- c) removing oxygen ~~from from~~ the transformed *Bacillus sp.* cell ~~or of~~ step (b) whereby the chimeric gene is expressed.

Claim 3 (Original) A method according to Claim 2 wherein after step (c) oxygen is re-supplied to the transformed *Bacillus sp.* cell.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) A method according to either of Claims 1 or 2 wherein the promoter region of a *Bacillus* gene is contained in a nucleic acid fragment as set forth in SEQ ID NO:8.

Claims 5-7 (Canceled) .

Claim 8 (Currently Amended) A method for the expression of a coding region of interest in a *Bacillus sp* comprising:

- a) providing a transformed *Bacillus sp* cell having a chimeric gene comprising ~~a nucleic acid fragment comprising the promoter region of a *Bacillus* gene~~ operably linked to a coding region of interest expressible in a *Bacillus sp*, wherein the ~~nucleic acid fragment comprising the promoter region~~ is of a *Bacillus* gene is *yvaWXY* gene and homologues thereof; and
- b) growing the transformed *Bacillus sp* cell of step (a) in the presence of oxygen until the cell reaches about T0 of the stationary phase wherein the chimeric gene of step (a) is expressed.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 8 wherein the promoter region of a *Bacillus* gene is contained in a nucleic acid fragment as set forth in SEQ ID NO:8.

Claims 10-13 (Canceled)

Claim 14 (Currently Amended) A method according to any of Claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein the expression of the chimeric gene is ~~down~~^{up}-regulated at T0 of the stationary phase.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended). A method according to any one of Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8, -wherein the *Bacillus* sp. cell is selected from the species consisting of *Bacillus subtilus*, *Bacillus thuringiensis*, *Bacillus anthracis*, *Bacillus cereus*, *Bacillus brevis*, *Bacillus megaterium*, *Bacillus intermedius*, *Bacillus thermoamyloliquefaciens*, *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens*, *Bacillus circulans*, *Bacillus licheniformis*, *Bacillus macerans*, *Bacillus sphaericus*, *Bacillus stearothermophilus*, *Bacillus laterosporus*, *Bacillus acidocaldarius*, *Bacillus pumilus*, and *Bacillus pseudofirmus*.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended) A method according to any one of Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8, -wherein the coding region of interest is selected from the group consisting of *crtE*, *crtB*, *pds*, *crtD*, *crtL*, *crtZ*, *crtX*, *crtO*, *phaC*, *phaE*, *eife*, *pdc*, *adh*, genes encoding limonene synthase, pinene synthase, bornyl synthase, phellandrene synthase, cineole synthase, sabinene synthase, and taxadiene synthase.

Claims 17-28 (Canceled)